

REMARKS

The Examiner stated that Claim 2 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 2 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 1. Claim 2 is allowable.

Claims 1 and 3-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kinoshita (U.S. Patent No. 4,431,090). Kinoshita does not disclose a disc brake actuator including an annular heat protection screen that contacts a piston. As shown in Figure 1 of Kinoshita, the boot protector 10 only contacts the cylinder body 1. Column 2, lines 32 to 34 of Kinoshita discloses that the boot protector 10 is fixedly fitted into a large diameter part 3 of a cylinder body 1. Kinoshita does not disclose that the boot protector 10 contacts the piston 5, and Kinoshita does not anticipate Applicant's claims.

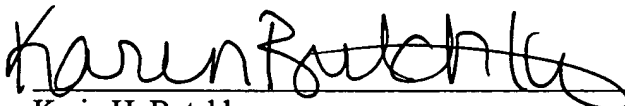
The Examiner further rejected claims 6 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kinoshita. Claims 6 and 7 require that the heat protection screen be made of polytetrafluorethylene. There is no suggestion in Kinoshita to make the heat protection screen of polytetrafluoroethylene, and it would not be obvious to employ polytetrafluoroethylene as the protection screen in Kinoshita. Claims 6 and 7 are not obvious, and Applicant requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Thus, claims 1-8 are in condition for allowance. No additional fees are seen to be required. If any additional fees are due, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482, in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, P.C., for any additional fees

or credit the account for any overpayment. Therefore, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS, P.C.

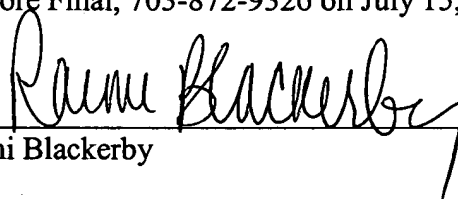


Karin H. Butchko
Registration No. 45,864
Attorneys for Applicant
400 West Maple Road, Suite 350
Birmingham, Michigan 48009
(248) 988-8360

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, TC3600, Before Final, 703-872-9326 on July 15, 2002.



Raimi Blackerby

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

- CLAIMS -

1. (AMENDED) A disk brake actuator comprising: a caliper, a pressure plate carrying a pad of friction material and a piston movable relative to [the] said caliper, said piston having an end rigidly connected to said pressure plate, and said caliper having an opening into which said piston end extends, an annular gap between an edge of said opening and said piston end being closed by a bellows-type annular boot that has an outer periphery mounted at [the] said edge of said caliper opening and an inner periphery engaged about said piston end, and an annular heat protection screen contacting said piston and extending between said bellows-type boot and said pressure plate.

2. (AMENDED) A disk brake actuator comprising: a caliper, a pressure plate carrying a pad of friction material and a piston movable relative to said caliper, said piston having an end rigidly connected to said pressure plate, and said caliper having an opening into which said piston end extends, an annular gap between an edge of said opening and said piston end being closed by a bellows-type annular boot that has an outer periphery mounted at said edge of said caliper opening and an inner periphery engaged about said piston end, and an annular heat protection screen extending between said bellows-type boot and said pressure plate and [The disk brake actuator of claim 1, wherein] said pressure plate has an integral boss with a raised wall portion and a flat face for connection to said piston end, and said heat protection screen has a skirt portion extending along [the] said raised wall portion of [the] said boss.